

Attachment 1
Fee Waiver Request

Attachment to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Letter: Fee Waiver Request

The Air Force allows requesters to request in writing a waiver of fees associated with a FOIA request if the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations and activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

EcoRights hereby requests that any fee associated with this FOIA request be waived, as the subject matter of the requested records specifically concerns identifiable operations or activities of the government, namely, documents related to a flight taken by former Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Scott Pruitt as part of his official duties during his tenure as EPA Administrator.

Disclosure of the requested information will significantly contribute to public understanding of government operations and activities. Specifically, the information will shed light on potentially unethical practices that EPA engaged in under former Administrator Pruitt. Mr. Pruitt's tenure as EPA Administrator was marked by allegations of improper use of government funds. The documents EcoRights requests constitute the best available evidence regarding the appropriateness of Mr. Pruitt's use of military aircraft for international flights. These documents will inform EcoRights and the public of the government's policies and practices that allowed Mr. Pruitt's use of military aircraft to travel internationally, and will inform EcoRights and the public about whether such practices and policies continue under Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler.

Disclosure of the documents will promote the understanding of the general public in a significant way because EcoRights will analyze the information and make its conclusions known to our members, other environmental groups nationwide, and the public at large via press releases and by posting our analyses of the information on one or more internet web sites or citizen group email broadcast "systems", such as the Clean Water Action Network. There has been significant environmental group and media focus on unethical and/or nontransparent practices under former Administrator Pruitt, and disclosing this information to EcoRights will allow EcoRights to provide valuable data on the details of these practices and whether they continue under Acting Administrator Wheeler. EcoRights is a nonprofit organization that will disseminate the information received to the public free of charge and will receive no commercial or economic benefit from the information. For the foregoing reasons, EcoRights requests that any fees associated with this request be waived.